Remarks

Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 USC 101 rejection on the grounds that, absent cited art, it is merely an opinion of the Examiner and thus is clearly improper. In addition patent 5,830,063 demonstrates that patents on gambling games are patentable and the present applicant falls into this category and contrary to the rejection it is not an abstract idea. In addition, contrary to the rejection, winning players of the game, as well as operators of the game, clearly receive financial benefits.

Applicant appreciates the opportunity of the interview conducted by telephone on 09 June 2005 wherein the issue of 101 was discussed. In accordance with the helpful discussion, applicant submits a new independent claim 7 wherein the limitations are defined in a sequential manner. The new dependent claims also define supporting limitations for the new independent claim. In the absence of anticipating art, claims 7-10 are deemed to be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore Jay, Reg Number 17071

16 N. Chatsworth Ave,

Suite 600,

Larchmont, NY 10538

Tel 914 834 3769

Fax 914 833 1864

Email tjay425772@aol.com

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Comments Concerning Objections To Drawings

The digits 0-9 disposed horizontally on top of the upper edge of the drawing each respectively identify a corresponding one of the ten vertical columns. The digits 0-9 disposed vertically along side of the left hand edge of the drawing each respectively identify a corresponding one of the ten horizontal rows. The horizontal digits overlie the uppermost one of the horizontal rows and the vertical digits are disposed adjacent the extreme left vertical columns. As a consequence each of the 100 cells are each disposed both in a column and in a row.

Consequently, applicant respectfully submits that the columns and rows are shown as described in the specification. Moreover, the description does not include any reference signs that are not shown in the drawing.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the drawings are in error and should be withdrawn.